

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as indicated below:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A socket for an electrical part which comprises:
a socket body which is mounted on a circuit board and accommodates the electrical part;
and
a contact pin disposed in the socket body, through which the circuit board and the electrical part are electrically connected, the socket body comprising
an accommodating surface portion to accommodate the electrical part and having first and second end portion sides,
a cover supporting member attached to the first end portion side of the accommodating surface,
a cover member having first and second end portion sides, the cover member rotatably attached to the cover supporting member at the first end portion side of the cover member,
an engaging member attached to the second end portion side of the accommodating surface portion, to engage the second end portion side of the cover member, wherein
the socket has first and second opposite sides,
a height of the accommodating surface portion is approximately a same height as that of a first socket disposed adjacently to the first opposite side and as that of a second socket disposed adjacently to the second opposite side , and
when a plurality of the sockets are disposed adjacently to each other, the electrical part is mountable over a plurality of accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, in such a manner as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions.
2. (ORIGINAL) The socket for an electrical part according to claim 1, wherein the accommodating surface portion is a floating plate made to be vertically moveable and urged upward, the floating plate having a through hole through which the contact pin is inserted.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The socket for an electrical part according to claim 1, wherein a peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion is formed to be positioned at a place close to a peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion of another socket disposed adjacent to the socket.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The socket for an electrical part according to

claim 3, wherein the contact pins are disposed up to the peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The socket for an electrical part according to claim 1, further comprising:

a pressing member for pressing the electrical part, the pressing member being attached to the cover member and including pressing portions lined up in a plurality of rows.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A socket for an electrical part comprising:
a socket body to be mounted on a circuit board and to accommodate the electrical part;
and

a plurality of contact pins disposed in the socket body, through which the circuit board and the electrical part are electrically connected, wherein

the socket body comprises

a contact unit in which the contact pins are disposed, the contact unit having first and second end portion sides,

a cover supporting member attached to the first end portion side of the contact unit, the cover supporting member having a cover member rotatably attached to the cover supporting member, and

an engaging member for engaging a front edge portion side of the cover member, the engaging member being provided at the second end portion side of the contact unit, and

the contact unit includes an accommodating surface portion to accommodate the electrical part, a height of the accommodating surface portion having an approximately same height as that of an adjacent socket so that, when a plurality of the sockets are disposed adjacently to each other, the electrical part is mountable over a plurality of accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions.

7. (CANCELED)

8. (ORIGINAL) A method for using the socket for an electrical part according to claim 1, which comprises:

disposing a plurality of the sockets in an adjacent manner on the circuit board; and
accommodating the electrical part over the accommodating surface portions of the

sockets for the electrical part in such a manner as bridging the accommodating surface portions.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for using the socket for an electrical part according to claim 76, which comprises:

disposing a plurality of the sockets in an adjacent manner on the circuit board; and
accommodating the electrical part over the accommodating surface portions of the sockets for the electrical part ~~in such a manner as bridging~~ so as to bridge the accommodating surface portions.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for using the socket for an electrical part according to claim 1, which comprises:

disposing the accommodating surface portion of the socket in such a manner as almost contacting with a peripheral edge portion of the first socket by installing the sockets adjacently to each other on the circuit board; and

accommodating the electrical part over the accommodating surface portions in such a manner as bridging the accommodating surface portions.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for using the socket for an electrical part according to claim 76, which comprises:

disposing the accommodating surface portion of the socket in such a manner as almost contacting with a peripheral edge portion of the adjacent socket by installing the sockets adjacently to each others on the circuit board; and

accommodating the electrical part over the accommodating surface portions ~~in such a manner as bridging~~ so as to bridge the accommodating surface portions.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of sockets, each socket comprising:
a contact pin; and

a socket body comprising an accommodating surface portion having a same height as the accommodating surface portion of each of the other of the plurality of sockets so that, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board, an electrical part is mountable over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions; and

a cover member rotatably attached to the socket body and having an opened and closed position so that, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit

board and an electrical part is mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and the cover member is rotated from the opened position to the closed position, the electrical part is pressed which thereby causes the electrical part to be electrically connected with the circuit board via the contact pin.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of sockets, each socket comprising:
a contact pin; and

a socket body comprising an accommodating surface portion having a same height as the accommodating surface portion of each of the other of the plurality of sockets so that, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board, an electrical part is mountable over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and

a cover member rotatably attached to the socket body and having an opened and closed position; and

means, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board and an electrical part is mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and the cover member is rotated from the opened position to the closed position, for pressing the electrical part to thereby cause the electrical part to be electrically connected with the circuit board via the contact pin.